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Harold Weisberg
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Dear Harold,

Got your note of September 2nd. Unfortunately, Nikki's dad didn't make it. Both Nikki and I had to journey to Marlboro, Massachusetts for the wake and funeral. I have/had no problem with you passing along to the *Washington Post* any material I developed with respect to the LaFontaine's version of what Elrod is alleged to have said.

I did get a copy of *Case Open* and am sorry for being so tardy with my thank you. A few weeks ago I wrote Jerry Rose. What follows is some of what I said,

> Before the thirtieth anniversary I thought we had a chance to discover something important. Pressure from Stone no matter how misdirected had succeeded in compelling the government to open the archives. I even started getting responses to FOIA's I requested five years ago. So what happens? Your "research community" starts infighting over important things like candlelight vigils, fund raising projects, book sales, television appearances and podium space. "The people need to know the truth!" they rant. What truth? Groden's, DiEugenio's, Judge's, Marrs', Ray and Mary LaFontaine's, Penn Jones', just who? While all this is going on, Gerald Posner slips in. He's much sharper and more articulate than Jim Moore. He gets a decent publisher and writes the "definitive" anti-conspiracy work. He becomes the spokesperson for the anti-conspiracy clan. He derides pro-conspiracy radicals who have filled the grassy knoll shooter's rooster with fifteen or so names.
>
> How does the "research community" respond? They write letters and commentaries <u>to each other</u>, many appearing in *The Fourth Decade*, and for the most part attacking Posner's version of the truth as less sound than their own. I expected the November, 1993 edition of *The Fourth Decade*, the

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thirtieth anniversary issue to be crammed with updates on what researchers found in the archives. Instead it contained ten articles with fifty percent, including one of your own, devoted to the horrors found in the pages of *Case Closed*. Thirty years out, the archives finally open and that's the best that could be done? Random House owes you all a debt of gratitude.

As far as I'm concerned some "researchers" turned the anniversary into a farce. There was Bob Vernon's - Jim Files as grassy knoll assassin, Robert Groden's - Bowers was part of a "Mysterious Death Project", Jack White's - plastic baby or the Rubenstein/Hildel fist fight and the LaFontaine's - Elrod confessed but won't tell us on camera. While these projects were being worked, quietly, Harold Weisberg issues a compelling answer to Posner. It doesn't get much notice. Harold's not a flashy guy, just competent. I don't think he's interested in CTKA, candlelight vigils or where the next symposium will be held. While Posner wiles away the hours on other projects, probably chasing Nazis or fishing, *The Fourth Decade* continues to happily bash away.

I thought you might like to know I think *Case Open*, even though you didn't get to include all that you wanted, is still a potent rebuttal of *Case Closed*. Unfortunately, *The Fourth Decade* has its own axe to grind and so far has given your work short shrift preferring instead to allow the neophytes to hammer away.

Dave

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p.s. The check is for the book.